

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-8, 10, 13-18, 23, 25-27, 29-31, 33, and 36-41 are pending in the application. Claims 8, 10, 13-18, 31, 33, and 36-41 have been cancelled. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 8, 10, 14-18, 31, 33, and 36-41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Bregenzer (GB 2,065,011) in view of Mielke (WO 03/022504). Claim 13 stands rejected as being unpatentable over “modified Bregenzer” as applied to Claim 8 above, and further in view of Hubert et al. (WO 03/042554).

Applicants have cancelled these claims, this obviating the rejection.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 23, 25-27, 29, and 30¹.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office

¹ In Item 5 of the Office Action Summary, Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 23, 25-27, 29, and 30 are listed as allowed; but on Page 3 of the Office Action, Claim 2 is also included as allowed. Since there is no stated rejection to Claim 2, Applicants assume that Claim 2 is, in fact, allowed and respond herein accordingly.

Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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